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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/886,693	06/18/2001	Shankar Moni	14531.114	7097

7590

08/04/2004

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EXAMINER

PHILIPPE, GIMS S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2613

DATE MAILED: 08/04/2004

Handwritten number 3

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/886,693

Applicant(s)

MONI ET AL.

Examiner

Gims S Philippe

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 19-22 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 17, 18, 23 and 25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 6-15 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

This is a first action in response to application no. 09/886,693 filed on June 18, 2001 in which claims 1-25 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-3, 16-18, 23 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kondo (US Patent no. 5,193,003).

As per claims 1, 16-18, 23 and 25, Kondo discloses a video management system configured to receive a video stream containing one or more video pictures that are each divided into blocks (See Kondo fig. 1, block divider 3, and col. 3, lines 43-44), wherein the video management system is to provide a representation of the one or more video pictures to a subsample decoder for subsampling, a method of reducing the size of the one or more frames with minimal, if any, effect on the video quality generated from the one or more frames after subsampling, the method comprising accessing a video picture that is to be subsampled (See Kondo col. 3, lines 17-25); and for at least one block of the video picture, reducing the size of the block to generate a reduced size block in such a way that subsampled decoding the reduced size block results in

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substantially the same reduced size image as subsampled decoding the original block
(See Kondo col. 2, lines 8-24, and lines 40-43).

As per claims 2-3, Kondo further provides the video picture with its one or more reduced size blocks to the subsample decoder (See Kondo fig. 1, Decoder 7, and col. 2, lines 8-24, and lines 40-43).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 4-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kondo (US Patent no. 5193003) in view of Boyce (US Patent no. 6563876).

Regarding claims 4-5, most of the limitations of these claims have been noted in the above rejection of claim 1.

It is noted that Kondo is silent about displaying a subsampled decoded picture as a reduce size of a picture-in-picture.

Boyce discloses subsampling including the step of displaying a subsampled decoded picture as a reduce size of a picture-in-picture (See Boyce col. 18, lines 27-35, and lines 49-53).

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Therefore, it is considered obvious that one skilled in the art at the time of the invention would recognize the advantage of modifying Kondo' subsampling step by incorporating Boyce's step of displaying a subsampled decoded picture as a reduce size of a picture-in-picture. The motivation for performing such a modification is to implement picture-in-picture capability in a digital television without incurring the cost of multiple full resolution decoders as taught by Boyce (See Boyce col. 2, lines 51-54).

5. Claims 6-15 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. Claims 19-22 are allowed.

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Keesen et al. (US Patent no. 4,942,457) teaches circuit arrangement for processing video components.

Ansari et al. (US Patent no. 5253059) teaches method and circuit for adjusting the size of a video frame.

Nakajima et al. (US Patent no. 6243421) teaches apparatus for decoding coded video data with reduced memory size.

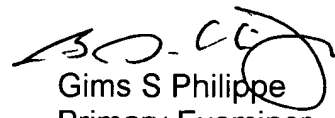
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Oh (US Patent no. 5949485) teaches method of compressing a video signal band transmission and device therefor.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gims S Philippe whose telephone number is (703) 305-1107. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (9:30-7:00) Second Monday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris S Kelley can be reached on (703) 305-4780. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Gims S Philippe
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2613

GSP

July 30, 2004